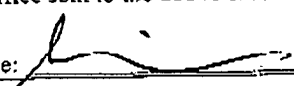


DEC 15 2004 Attorney Docket 7216-004US REG

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: Roger V. Maes ) Examiner: David B. Jones  
Serial Number: 10/809,078 ) Group Art Unit: 3725  
Filing Date: March 24, 2004 ) Telephone: General (703) 308-1887  
Title: Bending Apparatus for Pipe and ) Fax for Art Unit: (703) 872-9306  
Tubing )

Certification under 37 CFR 1.8 and 1.6 (d)  
Facsimile Date: December 17, 2004 Facsimile No: 703-872-9306 Total Pages: 17  
I hereby certify that the correspondence attached hereto is being transmitted under 37 CFR 16(d),  
on the above stated date to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office sent to the above facsimile  
number.  
Name: Betty Oppenheimer Signature: 

## RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION

15 Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

20 Sir:

**Section 1. Introduction and Request for Telephone Interview:**

In response to the first, non-final first Office Action dated Sept 17, 2004, currently due on  
December 17, 2004, Applicant submits the following Response. No fee is required as there are no  
new claims and this response is filed within the 3-month period. In the event a fee is required,  
25 please charge Deposit Account 04-1699.

Applicant requests the courtesy of a Telephone Interview between the Examiner and the  
undersigned counsel upon the Examiner reaching this Response and before final action in order to  
discuss any open issues in order to move this case to allowance. In particular, the Interview can  
insure the Examiner understands the significant difference in the nature, use and orthogonal  
30 alternatives of the orienting member for sequential bending operations. It will permit discussion of  
such clarifying amendments as may be needed to place the case into condition for allowance.  
Applicants' counsel can be reached at 360-681-7305 to arrange a mutually convenient time for the  
interview.

**End of Section 1. Introduction.**